

The Care Bears Help Santa

by Peggy Kahn • illustrated by Denise Fleming



A Care Bear™ Book from Random House









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It was Christmas Eve. The Care Bears were busy getting ready for Christmas up in Care-a-Lot, their magical land high above the clouds.



"I wish Santa would stop by Care-a-Lot so he could taste these cookies," said Wish Bear.

"It's not fair that Santa never comes here," said Grumpy Bear.



“You know Santa has to visit every child in the whole world tonight,” said Tenderheart. “Maybe Care-a-Lot is too far out of his way.”

“I guess you’re right,” said Grumpy.





Cheer Bear read *The Night Before Christmas* to the other Bears. Then they all settled down on their clouds to sleep.



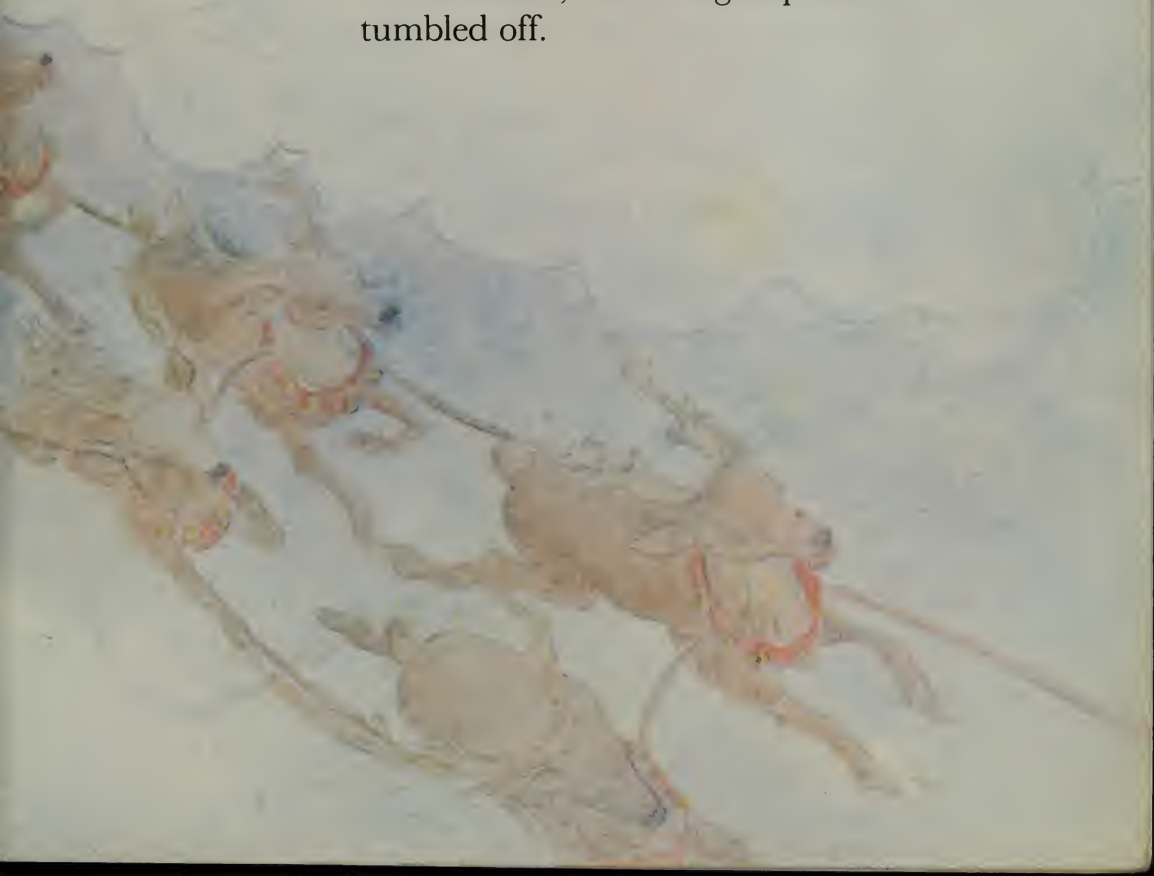
Meanwhile, at the North Pole, it was so foggy that Santa could hardly find his sled.
“I hope you don’t get lost,” said Mrs. Claus.



“Don’t worry, my dear,” said Santa. “The reindeer know the way. Come, Dasher! Come, Dancer!” And off they flew!



But the fog was so thick that the reindeer did get lost. In fact, they were right over Care-a-Lot! And before Santa knew it, his sled bumped into a thick cloud, and a bag of presents tumbled off.



The tinkle of sleigh bells woke the Care Bears.

“Look! Look! Santa’s been here,” said Funshine Bear. “And he’s left a bag of toys for us!”

“Wait a minute,” said Friend Bear. “These presents aren’t for us. The tag says ‘Smiley Children, Centerville.’”

“Oh, no!” said Good Luck Bear. “They won’t be very smiley on Christmas morning.”

“We’ll just have to deliver the presents ourselves!” said Cheer Bear.







And so Cheer Bear, Friend Bear, and
Good Luck Bear took the bag of presents
and slid down, down, down—all the way
to Centerville.



It was snowing. The Bears
trudged down one street after
another. It was getting later and
later.

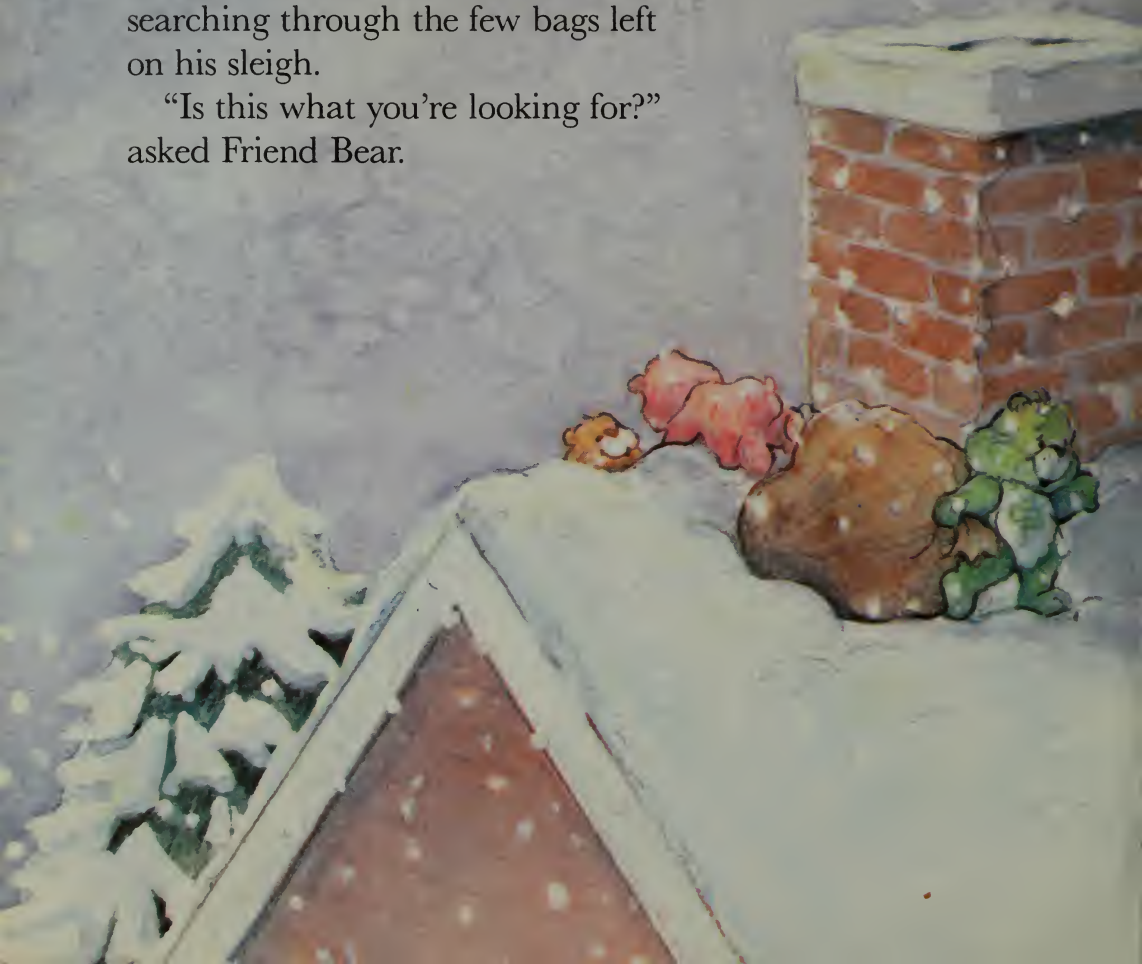
At last Good Luck Bear spotted
the Smiley house!



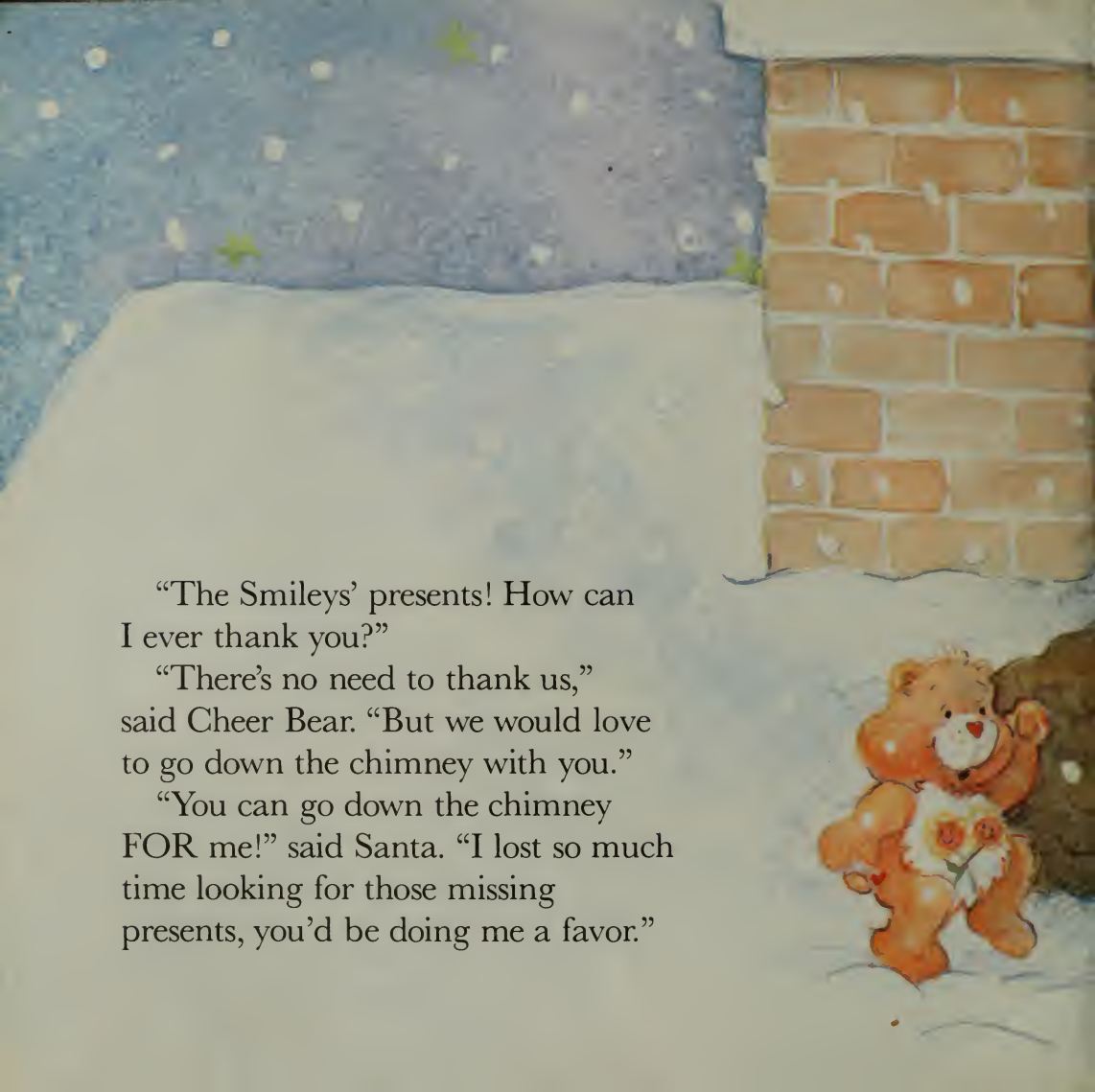


The Care Bears found a very worried Santa on the rooftop. He was searching through the few bags left on his sleigh.

“Is this what you’re looking for?” asked Friend Bear.





A night scene with a blue sky, white snow, and a brick chimney. The sky is dark blue with white stars and snowflakes. The ground is covered in white snow. A brick chimney is on the right side of the image. The text is written in a simple, black, serif font.

“The Smileys’ presents! How can I ever thank you?”

“There’s no need to thank us,” said Cheer Bear. “But we would love to go down the chimney with you.”

“You can go down the chimney FOR me!” said Santa. “I lost so much time looking for those missing presents, you’d be doing me a favor.”







The happy Care Bears slid
down the chimney. They filled the
stockings that hung from the mantel.

“Let’s stay until the children
open their presents,” said Cheer
Bear.

The other Bears thought that
was a fine idea.

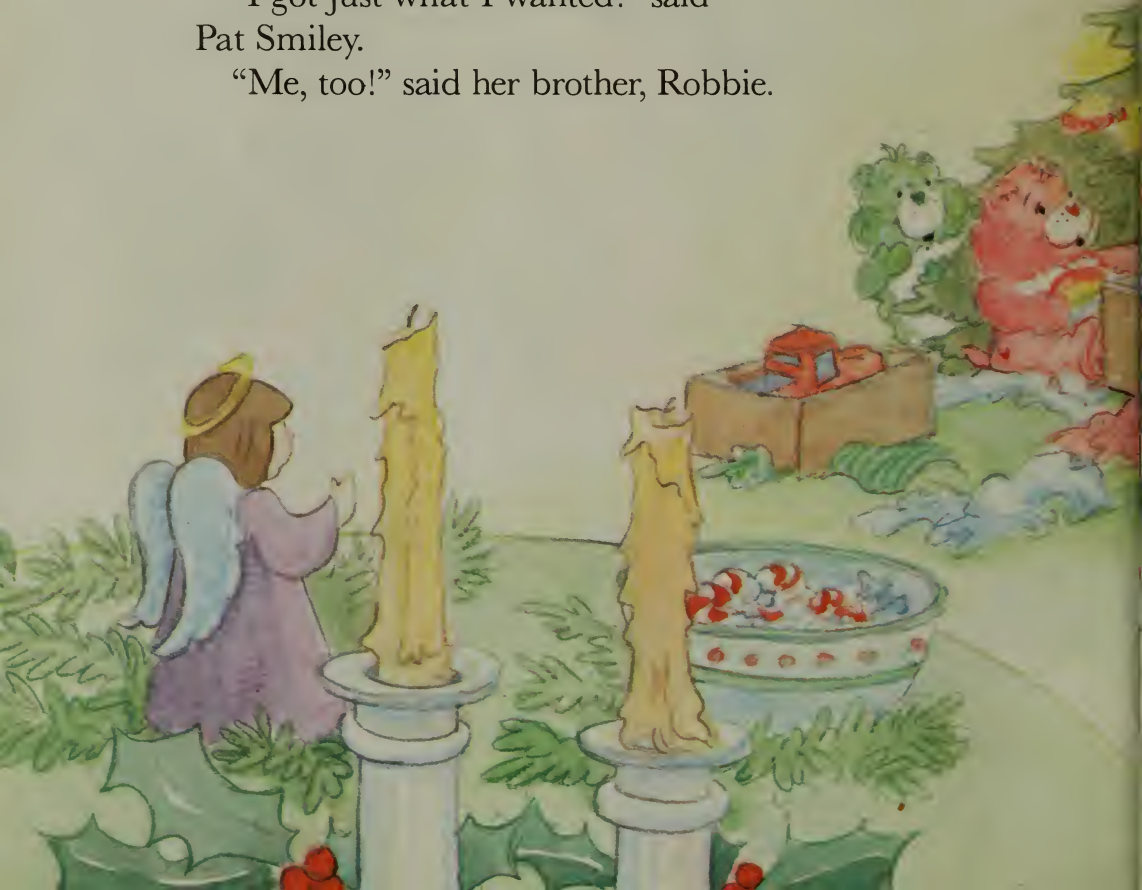




Because the Care Bears are very special bears, no one even noticed they were there.

"I got just what I wanted!" said Pat Smiley.

"Me, too!" said her brother, Robbie.









“We’d better get home now,”
whispered Friend Bear.

So while the children played with
their new toys, the Care Bears floated
out the window and up to Care-a-Lot.

Soon after the travelers returned, all the Care Bears heard sleigh bells and a jolly voice calling "Merry Christmas!"

It was Santa with a bagful of presents just for the Care Bears!







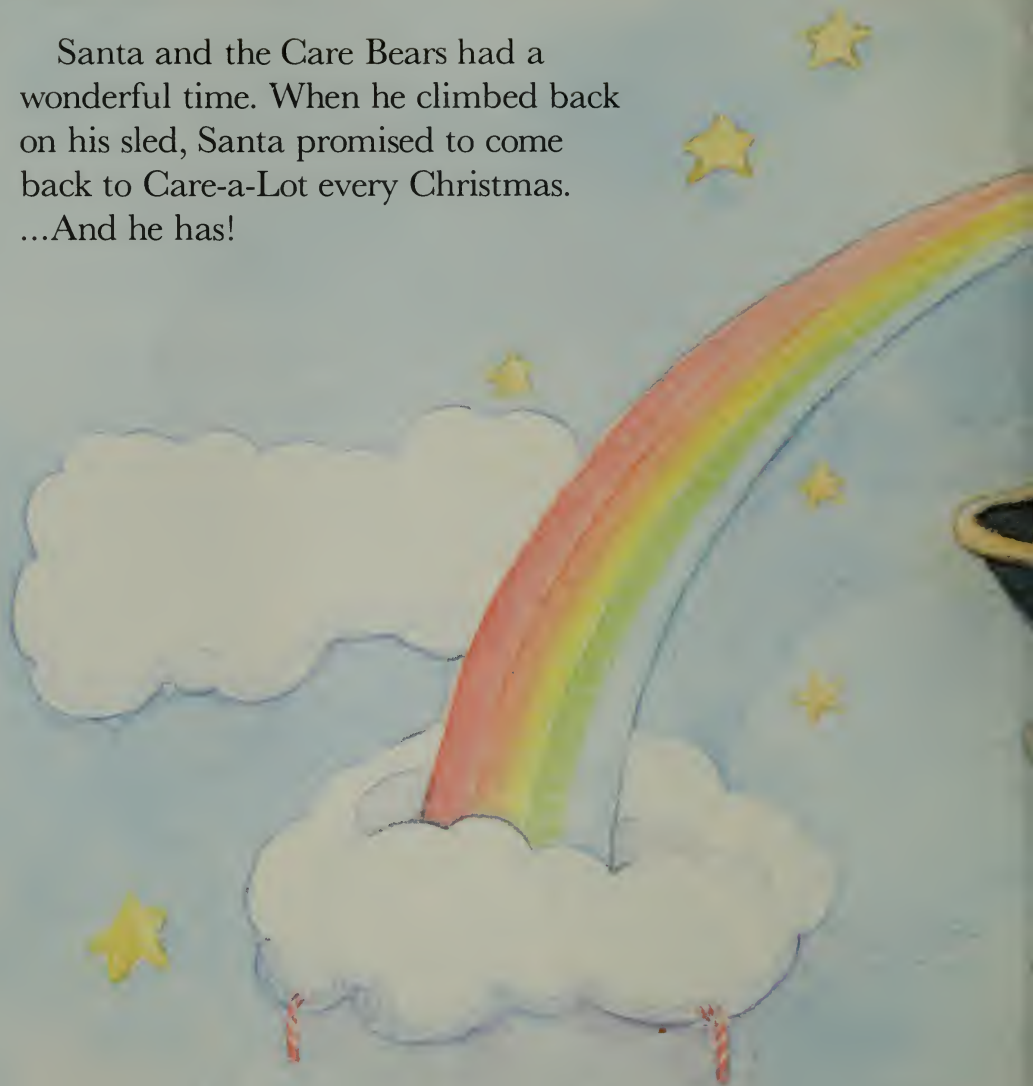
The Care Bears could hardly believe it—Santa himself!

“Before I go home,” said Santa, “I thought I’d spend some time just eating cookies and having fun in Care-a-Lot.”

Nothing could have made the Care Bears happier!

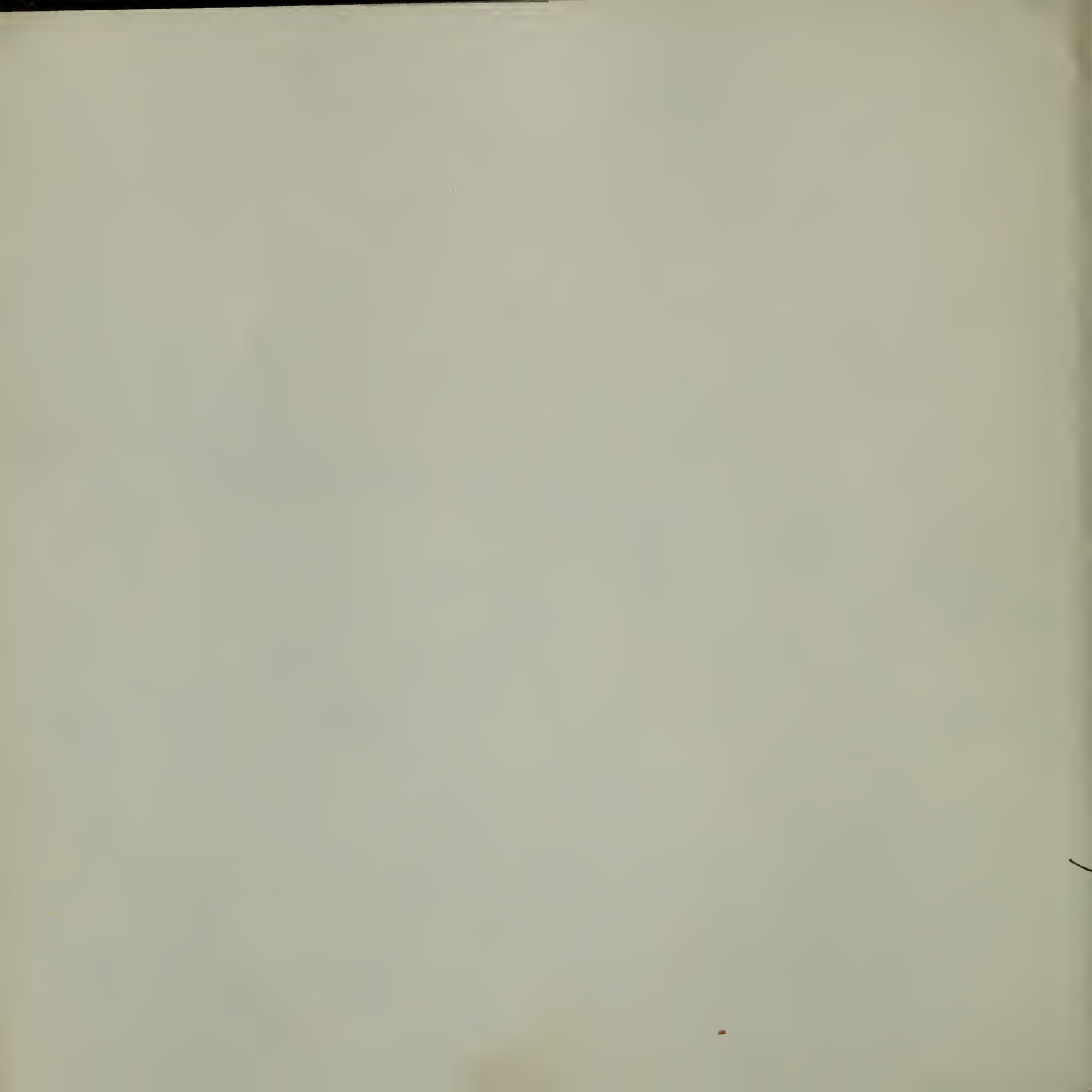


Santa and the Care Bears had a wonderful time. When he climbed back on his sled, Santa promised to come back to Care-a-Lot every Christmas. ...And he has!













Santa and the Care Bears add a special sparkle to the holiday in this delightful Christmas story for young children.

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